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19 Sept 1968

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TO: Executive Secretary, IHC

FROM:

SUBJECT: Comments on COINS Test and Analysis Panel Plan

REFERENCE: IHC-D-113.4/11, 31 May 1968

1. The report notes that the following data is __not__ planned for:

    A. Economic Analysis Data *(p.4)*

        1. Cost of developing formatted files.

        2. Query languages.

        3. Hardware/Software Complexes.

        4. Man-hours devoted to COINS committee and panel activities.

    B. Security Analysis Data *(p.4)*

    C. Technical Analysis Data *(p.4)*

        1. File organization.

        2. Query languages.

        3. Search tactics

        4. Software in COINS

2. Appendix I-A contains a "COINS USER LOG FORM" which includes the name of the analyst and query technician. It is not clear as to who fills out the form, the analyst or the query technician. From the questions it appears that the analyst is expected to fill out the form. Hopefully all participants understand it.

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3. It would seem that, inasmuch as the form will have to be handled or seen by a query technician, the form would include questions directed to him. These questions might help in gathering data noted above as not being planned for, i.e., Technical Analysis Data.

4. The "COINS INTERVIEW REPORT FORM" in Appendix I-D could be expanded to include questions which would assist in gathering information on "Technical Analysis Data." I would venture to say that there will be people using COINS who will have no interest in the files or data output; rather, these people will insert queries to test their own machine interrogation abilities and to determine various technical data type answers.

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5. Suggest strongly that no additional fact finding data be inserted in these forms. Believe it best to do this in manageable hunks in order for the data to be meaningful. Otherwise, if we want "Economic Analysis Data" suggest that another set of forms be formulated.

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